

No. 29,425.

WASHINGTON, D. C., TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 1916-SIXTEEN PAGES.

PRESIDENT APPEALS TO CONGRESS TO PASS LAW TO CURB STRIKE

Reveals Negotiations Between Railroads and Desperate Fighting Is Report-Organized Employes at Joint Session of House and Senate.

WANTS EIGHT-HOUR DAY STATUTE AND COMMISSION TO APPLY IT

Favors Statute Providing Investigation of Controversies and Suspension of Walkouts Pending Findings-Would Enlarge Interstate Commerce Commission-Many Conferences Held.

Facing the greatest strike in the history of the world, balked after two weeks' personal effort as mediator to avert an industrial cataclaysm, President Wilson, in an unprecedented effort, is this afternoon appealing to a joint session of Congress for legislation

The President is also taking this course to acquaint the people of the United States with the facts in the controversy as they have come before him, and the desperate endeavors he has made to avert the catastrophe in their interests.

Just within the hour when the President was to make his dramatic appeal these two committees made public statements covering their views of the outstanding features of the proposed legislation. The brotherhoods claimed that enactment of a compulsory investigation law, patterned after the Canadian law, would be a reversal to slavery. The railroad executives protested that refusal to arbitrate the demands of the employes undermines the very basis of arbitration and will entail widespread industrial strife.

The President felt driven to make his last stand before Congress by the fact that the tentative order for a strike to start Labor day morning was today made actual, unless revoked by the brotherhood committee. This move was taken, it was understood, that no legislative action might be able to prevent the strike.

The President in his address to Congress on the strike situation

"GENTLEMEN OF THE CONGRESS:

"I have come to you to seek your assistance in dealing with a very grave situation which has arisen out of the demand of the employes of the railroads engaged in freight train service that they be granted an eight-hour working day, safeguarded by payment for an hour and a half of service for every hour of work

"The matter has been agitated for more than a year. The public has been made familiar with the demands of the men and the arguments urged in favor of them, and even more familiar with the objections of the railroads and their counter demand that certain ment worked out through many years of contest be reconsidered, Hungary is reported in an Exespecially in their relation to the adoption of an eight-hour day. change Telegraph dispatch from of departments of the government, The matter came some three weeks ago to a final issue and re- Bern, Switzerland. The Rumasulted in a complete deadlock between the parties. The means provided by law for the mediation of the controversy failed and the means of arbitration for which the law provides were rejected. The representatives of the railway executives proposed that the demands of the men be submitted in their entirety to arbitration, along with certain questions of readjustment as to pay and conditions of employment which seemed to them to be either closely associated with the demands or to call for reconsideration on their own merits; the men absolutely declined arbitration, especially if any of their established privileges were by that means to be drawn again in question. The law in the matter put no compulsion upon day left Bucharest for the front to take command of the army, acapartment of Labor, \$1,206,940.08: Department of Commerce, \$1,206,940.08: Department of Commerce, \$1,206,900: Department of Labor, \$161,572.50: United States employes' compensation commits.

"The 400,000 men from whom the demands proceeded had voted capital. to strike if their demands were refused; the strike was imminent; it has since been set for the 4th of September next. It affects the men who man the freight trains on practically every railway in the country. The freight service throughout the United States must stand still until their places are filled, if, indeed, it should prove possible to fill them at all. Cities will be cut off from their food supplies, the whole commerce of the nation will be paralyzed, men of every sort and occupation will be thrown out of employment, countless thousands will in all likelihood be brought, it may be, to the very point in the Austrian capital have been called tax office, street improvements and of starvation, and a tragical national calamity brought on, to be added to the other distresses of the time, because no basis of accommodation or settlement has been found.

MEDIATION IS OFFERED.

"Just so soon as it became evident that mediation under the existing law had failed and that arbitration had been rendered impossible by the attitude of the men, I considered it my duty to confer with the representatives of both the railways and the brother-hoods, and myself offer mediation, not as an arbitrator, but merely as spokesman of the nation, in the interest of justice, indeed, and as a friend of both parties, but not as judge, only as the representatives in many and tomorrow the Greek minister in Berlin is to be received by Chancel-lor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

Court; \$9,000 for support of convicts; \$2,100 for the Supreme Court of the Distribution for the war, which German diplomatic circles regard as certain. Many Greeks have departed from Germany, and tomorrow the Greek minister in Berlin is to be received by Chancel-lor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

School for Supreme Court of the Distribution for the supreme Court of the Distribution for the war, which German diplomatic circles regard as certain. Many Greeks have departed from Germany, and tomorrow the Greek minister in Berlin is to be received by Chancel-lor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

School for Supreme Court of the Distribution for the supreme Court of the Distribution for the war, which German diplomatic circles regard as certain. Many Greeks have departed from Germany, and tomorrow the Greek minister in Berlin is to be received by Chancel-lor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

School for Supreme Court of the Distribution for the war, which German diplomatic circles regard as certain. Many Greeks have departed from Germany, and tomorrow the Greek minister in Berlin is to be received by Chancel-lor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

School for Supreme Court of the Distribution for the war, which German diplomatic circles regard as certain. Many Greeks have departed from Germany, and tomorrow the Greek minister in Berlin is to be received by Chancel-lor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

School for Supreme Court of the Distribution for the war, which German diplomatic circles regard as certain.

School for Supreme Court of the Supreme as a friend of both parties, but not as judge, only as the representative of one hundred millions of men, women and children who would pay the price, the incalculable price, of loss and suffering should these few men insist upon approaching and concluding the matters in controversy between them merely as employers and employes, rather than as patriotic citizens of the United States looking before and after and accepting the larger responsibility which the public would put upon them.

"It seemed to me, in considering the subject matter of the controversy, that the whole spirit of the time and the preponderant evidence of recent economic experience spoke for the eight-hour day. It has been adjudged by the thought and experience of recent years a thing upon which society is justified in insisting as in the interest of health, efficiency, contentment and a general increase of economic vigor."

PROPOSALS OF PRESIDENT.

"The whole presumption of modern experience would, it seemed to me, be in its favor, whether there was arbitration or not, and the debatable points to settle were those which arose out of the acceptance of the eight-hour day rather than those which affected its establishment. I, therefore, proposed that the eight-hour day be (Continued on Second Page.)

RUMANIAN TROOPS AND RUSSIANS JOIN; **HUNGARY INVADED**

ed in Passes of the Transylvanian Alps.

KING LEAVES BUCHAREST TO COMMAND HIS ARMY

General Mobilization Ordered and Great Enthusiasm Is Reported in Rumanian Capital.

EYES NOW TURN TO ATHENS

Germany Said to Be Making Preparations in Expectation of Having to Meet Greeks as Well as Rumanians.

ZURICH, August 29, via Paris. - Rumanian troops which have been concentrated at Jassy, near the Russian frontier, entered Transsylvania at a point to the west of Piatra, and, according to information received here, are reported to have joined forces with Russian troops coming from Bukowina.

The first hostilities between Rumania and Austria-Hungary broke out Sunday evening south and southwest of Kronstadt (Brasso). Skirmishes also are reported farther west at Col Tour Rouge.

BERLIN, August 29, via London, 6:01 p.m.-Reports were received here today that the Rumanians have been defeated in their first efforts to force a way through three mountain passes into Hungary.

LONDON, August 29, 2:45 p.m.—Desperate fighting on the nians, the message says, are mak- lows: ing furious efforts to capture the important mountain passes.

says, is contained in a telegram rom Austrian headquarters published in the Bund of Bern.

King Ferdinand of Rumania to-

According to a dispatch from Vienna by way of Berlin all Rumanian citizens upon by the authorities to report within forty-eight hours at the police headquarters in their precincts and to fur-

Greece Expected to Enter.

An Exchange Telegraph dispatch

(Continued on Second Page.)

DAY IN CONGRESS.

Senate: Met at 11 a.m. Adopted resolution for joint session of Congress at 2:30 o'clock to hear President Wil-

Senator Reed, in speech, re-viewed achievements of Wilson administration.

Tobacco growers, protesting with members of Congress against British embargo against shipment of tobacco to Germany and Austria, drew up brief to submit to Secretary Lansing. Met in joint session with the House at 2:30 o'clock to hear President Wilson's speech on railroad strike legislation.

Met at 11 a.m.



Total Amount Carried in Meas- Nebraska Prohibition Fight Rebukes Secretary of War for ure, Reported to House, Is \$14,323,072.23.

In the deficiency appropriation bill, W. J. BRYAN OCCUPIES ments, the various totals being as fol-

ury Department, \$472,301.06; District of Columbia, \$183,867,47; War Depart-This information, the dispatch ment, \$816,109.53; military establishment, \$2,315,000; fortifications, field artillery, \$1,200,000; Panama canal for-tifications, \$533,000; National Soldiers Homes, \$29,500; State Soldiers Homes, \$2,247.03; Navy Department, \$82,661.74 naval establishment, \$1,836,070.85; De partment of the Interior, \$79,571.40; judicial, \$6,533.33; United States courts cording to information received here today from the Rumanian capital.

Enthusiasm at Bucharest.

A dispatch from Bucharest by way of the section of the sect

The estimates concerning these deficiencies totaled \$22,373,381.37. The largest individual item is that of \$3,000,000 to pay the republic of Nicaragua, in compliance with the canal reaty with that country.

District Items Covered

The District items cover a mass o sewers. The school deficiency covers a cussed longevity pay for teachers, and the allowance to principals. The largest ficiency for 1916, amounting to \$31,-

proximately: \$1,000 for the Juvenile Court: \$9,000 for support of convicts: uren, \$2,555; industrial Home School \$1,179, and support of indigent insane

7,080. The bill provides that all the District ems shall be paid for on the half-and-

Riders in the Bill.

Legislative riders in the bill provide for the following: That unless efficiency ratings are established in the government departments and separate establishments employes of the offices where these rat-

Hot Breakfast at Plattsburg Camp. PLATTSBURG, N. Y., August 29 .- A field kitchen similar to those used by the entente allied armies in Europe has received its first trial here, 500 men of the 9th Regiment of the mili-tary training camp being provided with a hot breakfast. The kitchen wfil be used during practice marches.

D. C. GETS \$183,867 LIQUOR QUESTION JONES CHAMPIONS IN DEFICIENCY BILL CAMPAIGN FACTOR ALIEN-BORN CITIZENS

in National Election.

A PECULIAR POSITION

Expected to Have Bearing

Espouses Mr. Wilson's Cause, But

Speeches Aid Republicans-Party Lines Not Closely Drawn.

BY N. O. MESSENGER. OMAHA, Neb., August 29 .-

One of the most interesting political situations is found in Nebraska, which may at this time properly be classed as a doubtful ed States senatorship and the governorship. The question of which way the state will go this resolution, so far as I know," said politically will depend largely Senator Jones. "I suppose the Secreupon how it stands on proposed state-wide prohibition in Novem-

As the republican candidates for senator and governor avowedly support prohibition and the democratic candidates for the same offices as openly take the other side, the liquor question becomes political, with the two parties contest unavoidably will affect the national ticket to a degree, at least.

Party Lines Disturbed.

According to "form" Nebraska should e a republican state in a presidential election, with a united republican party. This year a number of elements of party lines, and keep the wiseacre guessing for the moment.

Women do net vote in Nebraska suffrage having been defeated two icanism than any other agency. It has years ago, and the prohibition forces will be lacking this powerful element of strength which is lent them in the of the Constitution purely on account of their nativity.

denied to American citizens the rights and privileges guaranteed to them under the Constitution purely on account of their nativity.

House and Senate Provide Chil- will be lacking this powerful element suffrage states. They will have, however, the support of William J. Bryan for whatever it may be worth, who is advocating the probibition amendment. Mr. Bryan in that attitude is therefore logically lending aid and comfort to the republican party, since the latter's candidates invoke the support of the anti-liquor vote. He is stoutly standing up for President Wilson, however. If President Wilson should lose Nebraska and the state go for prohibition Mr. Bryan would resume his position as the first democrat of the state.

ployes of the offices where these ratings are not in effect shall not be promoted after March 31, 1917.

That the bureau of efficiency shall start an investigation into the methods of transacting business in the bureau of internal revenue.

That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized to pay from the bathing beach funds the salaries of certain employes at the beach from July 1 to September 15, 1916.

Hitchcock Is Candidate.

Senator Hitchcock is a candidate for reelection and opposes prohibition. He was opposed for renomination by Mr. Bryan, whom he supported in the early days of Mr. Bryan's career at the imminent risk of his own financial bankruptcy. He will have the aid of the liberal element of the

Mine Planter.

Dismissals of Men on Army

today, in the Senate, by Senator Jones of Washington. These foreign-born American cit-

izens so discharged were employed on the United States Army mine planter, Major Samuel Ringgold, and were six

More than a month ago Senator Jones introduced a resolution in the Senate. and had it passed, calling upon the Secretary of War to inform the Senate what orders had been issued by the War Department during the last three state on the presidency, the Unit- years directing the non-employment of or discriminating between citizens of the United States in connection with the work of his department. "There has never been any reply to

tary of War has been too busy camtion to discharge public business and comply with the request of the Senate." Senator Jones denounced the adminis-tration for preaching a united Ameri-canism and at the same time discriminating between American citizens be-cause of their birth.

done more to justify hyphenated Amer-erly applied.
"We are still the guests of President"."

"Under date of April 24, 1916, the recting the discharge of certain men n the service of the United States the United States steamer Ringgold. Why were these men ordered dis-

they charged with misconduct of any kind? No. Were they dangerous men? No. Had they shown that they were not to be trusted? No. Were they ome other nation above those of the United States? No. Werethey allens?

were they discharged? Solely because they were not native-born. It is insecting to note that none of these discharged American citizens was born in any of the nations now at war."

Senator Jones read a letter signed by Capt. H. D. Colby, commanding the Bringold, in which the captain stated the only reason for the discharge was that the War Department "has just decided that foreign-born citizens of the United States shall no longer be employed as civilian employes on army mine planters."

the statement of the President to the railroad employes."

A few minutes later Representative Adamson of Georgia, chairman of the interstate and foreign commerce committee, told the House that the President's statement to the railroad employes was substantially the same as that the War Department "has just decided that foreign-born citizens of the United States shall no longer be employed as civilian employes on army mine planters."

AS GREAT STRIKE NEARS EACH PARTY ANNOUNCES POSITION TO THE PUBLIC

Brotherhoods Oppose Legislation Along Plan of Canadian Industrial Disputes Act, Saying It Would Enslave Men Indefinitely.

PRESIDENTS OF ROADS GIVE REASONS FOR DECLINING MR. WILSON'S PROPOSAL

Dispute Statement That Society Is Favorable to Eight-Hour Day at This Time and Show Why Transportation Conditions Make Plan Impractical.

Last-minute statements from the two parties to the great rails oad controversy were issued this afternoon, and express their views regarding the legislation President Wilson is asking from Congress this afternoon.

Statement by Brotherhood Heads.

Stone, Lee and Carter, issued the following statement explaining their opposition to any legi ation along the olan of the Canadian commission:

"Since the abolition of slavery no more effectual meáns has been devised for insuring the bondage of the workingmen than the passage of compulsory investigation acts of the character of the Canadian industrial disputes act. The writers speak from their personal experience thereunder, as these organizations are all international in their jurisdiction. To cite an actual occurrence:

"In 1910 the men upon eighty railways in the eastern territory presented to the rallway companies of that wages. The companies refused to deal

"Moreover, the period of investigation were not native-born Americans was in a majority of instances where a vermade the subject of a scathing attack upon the democratic administration today, in the Senate, by Senator Jones

West the state of the senate of the sena of that law has led to placing thousands of men in the attitude of law-breakers, and the passage of laws which induce men to open violation thereof is a deadly injury to a nation because it breeds universal contempt for law

for law.

"In the present strife, if such an act
were passed, all that would be necessary would be for the power of attorney to be withdrawn from the national

for Holding Joint Session Concurrent resolutions for the joint

ing to the eight-hour day in the in

serious consequences to the railroads to the public involved in a decision

Trustees for the Public.

ple that have invested their savings and

the enormous cost that will result the transportation of the commerce

Effect Upon Industries.

"The widespread effect upon the in-

beyond measure or appraisement at this

and widespread public concern over the gravity of the stluation and the con-sequence of surrender by the railroads

Railway Presidents' Statemer This statement to the public was The brotherhood heads, Garretson, presidents: "We are unable after the most early

"Since the abolition of slavery no posal of the President of the Unite

Cite Actual Occurrence.

Advantage to Employer.

for years in involuntary servitude they obeyed the provisions of such law."

Leaders of Brotherhood Most Positively Decline to Arbitrate Eight-Hour Day

the transportation of the commerce of the country.

"The eight-hour day without punitive overtime involves an annual increase approximating in the aggregate \$50,000,000, and an increase of more than 20 per cent in the pay of men already the most highly paid in the transportation service.

"The ultimate cost to the ralifoads an admission in this manner of the principle under contention cannot new be estimated; the effect upon the efficiency of the transportation of the country now already under severe test under the tide of business now moring, and at a time when more instead of less effort is required for the public welfare, would be harmful beyond calculation. Positive declaration that the brotherhood leaders have no intention of arbitrating the eight-hour working day was contained in a statement given out last evening by W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.
"It seems evident," the statement said, "from press reports that the rail-

Champions Alien-Born Citizens.

"While we have the right to insist upon an undivided allegiance and undiluted Americanism on the part of those who have had American citizens ship conferred upon them, do they not have the right to be treated by the government as American citizens in the government as American citizens in the fullest sense of the word?" said Senator Jones.

"This administration has repeatedly denounced hyphenated Americans, but it has done more to destroy an undivided Americanism, it has done more to belittle American citizenship, and it has done more to justify hyphenated Americans offered by President Wilson.

"The railways former claim that our request would cost \$100,000,000 has been split fifty fifty, and we are reminded of the statement that "figures won't lie, but liars will figure." The railways know full well that the eight-hour day, as offered by President Wilson would not cost \$20,000,000 per annum if propersionism than any other received.

in this emergency.

"In like manner we are deeply impressed with the sense of our respective pressed with the sense of our respective pressed with the sense of our respective processed with the include of the commerce of the country, and of the consequences that will flow from even a temporary interpretation of service over the railroad, but the issues presented have been raised above and beyond the social and monetary questions involved, and the responsibility for the consequences that may arise will rest upon those that provoke it."

by Concurrent Resolution

ssion of Congress were quietly adopt ed today in House and Senate. Twenty ive seats in the gallery were reserved or the railroad presidents and twenty-ve were reserved for the employes. his was agreed to without dissent. Representative Hill of Connecticut aid to the House that the public and longress had read in the newspapers he statement which the President had

public satisfaction, in any other manne The decision of a commission or board of will be accepted by the public and the the public, but in no less deliberate orderly manner.
"The railroads of the country can-

Say Questions Should Be Arbitrated

"The questions involved are in our

spectful judgment, eminently suitable for

public through the agency of fair arbi-

penses. If imposed upon them it wo penses. If imposed upon them it wo involve many in early financial embedies and the power of all to maintain the credit and the integrity of their curities. The immediate increase cost, followed by other increases to would be inevitable would substratially appropriate the present purching power of the railroads and disathem from extending and imprevented in the statement of th